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 SUBJECT Tohanul Vechiu Munitions Plant

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1.  a munitions factory which was to be located near Tohanul Vechiu, Rumania. The plant and entire layout were completed by 1937.  It was utilized by the Rumanian Government throughout the entire period of World War II. This installation was never bombed by Allied planes which attacked various Rumanian military installations and industries including the Ploesti oil fields. Whether this site was unknown to the Allies or deemed of insufficient importance is unknown.  Nevertheless, the facilities (well camouflaged) were never subjected to any bombing.
2. The plant Tohanul Vechiu is located about 20 kilometers southwest of Brasov on the railroad line which connects Brasov and Zarnesti. Tohanul Vechiu is located one railroad stop east of Zarnesti. The site was chosen by the Rumanian Government because it was almost surrounded by the Transylvanian Alps.
3. The layout of the plant, which produced ordnance and also did power loading of shells, was confined to an area of about 200 hectares. Approximately 95 buildings are located in this mountainous region and constitute the total layout of the plant. Large quantities of explosives were stored at Tohanul Vechiu. The installations received their electrical output from a hydroelectric project nearby. However, an auxiliary transformer station was installed in the event of damage to the power plant. Although

  
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the installations were designed for about two thousand workmen under normal conditions, approximately twice that number were employed during World War II. The railway which connects Brasov to Zarnesti and serves Tohanul Vechiu is a standard gauge five feet single track railway line. In 1947 the road from Brasov to Tohanul Vechiu was not paved. However, it was serviceable since it was composed of good quality gravel.

4. The plant described above is [REDACTED] worthy of consideration as a critical installation which could prove very useful to the Communists. It is well protected by mountain ranges. There is sufficient water and considerable room for expansion.

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